

DESCRIPTIONS OF A NEW GENUS AND TWO NEW SPECIES OF
EUROPEAN *OXYURA*.

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FAM. *DRYINIDES*.

Genus *DRYINUS*, Latr.

DRYINUS CORSICUS, *n. sp.*

D. niger, *antennis testaceis, nigro-annulatis, apice albido; alis hyalinis, partim nigro-nervosis, fascia ante apicem fusca; femoribus nigris, apice tibiisque piceo-rufis; tarsis testaceis.* ♀.
Long. 3; alar. exp. 3 lin.

Antennæ tricolorous in the living insect, joints 1—5 testaceous, gradually growing darker towards the 5th, 6—9 black, the last joint formerly white but now yellowish. Body entirely black, hardly shining, except upon the abdomen. Wings hyaline, with a lacteous tinge; the three longitudinal nervures partly, before the middle, the two recurrent nervures which connect them, as well as the ramus post-marginalis (radius), fuscous; the other nervures colourless; stigma white, with a dark apex; a single broad band of fuscous crosses the wing beyond the middle.

Hab. : Corsica.

I have compared this insect with the description of *D. formicarius*, Latr., and with a drawing which I copied from one lent me by Prof. Westwood, taken from Latreille's type specimen. Also with Westwood's description of *Campylonyx ampuliciformis* (Proc. Zool. Soc., 1835, p. 52). Also with the description and figure of *Chelothelius gryps*, Reinh. (Berl. ent. Zcit., 1863, p. 409). And lastly with my specimen of *D. tarraconensis*, described in this Magazine (iv, p. 203). So far as I can ascertain, these are all the species that have been published; and the present individual agrees with none of them. It is nearest to *D. tarraconensis*, but, besides certain differences of colour, it has structural characters which make it abundantly distinct.

The legs are much shorter, the femora especially being scarcely half the relative length of those of *tarraconensis*, and more clavate. The joints of the antennæ, the prothorax, and every part of the body to which the idea of length can be applied, are proportionally shorter; the general effect being the production of a stouter and more compact insect. The punctuation and rugulosity of the head are considerably coarser; and there is no medial frontal line. The scutellum is smooth and shining, instead of being marked with striæ and rugosities. The neururation of the wings offers slight differences, which it would take much time to describe. The wing itself has only one dark fascia instead of two, although the nervures are dyed in two places; and the membrane shows a different texture, and a milky hue not to be found in *tarraconensis*. I remember that the tips of the antennæ, and I

think also the hind tarsi, were conspicuously white when the insect was alive; these are now tarnished with yellow. The species of *Dryinus* are less active than *Gonatopus*; they carry their wings folded, like a small *Pompilus*, and appear disinclined to take flight. The present species was found in a hot sandy place of the Campoloro, near Ajaccio, at the roots of herbage, in July, 1870. Though I visited the spot daily for a long time, I could discover no more, nor has the ♂ of this genus or of *Gonatopus* ever occurred to any one.

FAM. SCELIONIDES.

ALERIA, n. g.

Mandibulæ dentatæ. Antennæ prope os insertæ, 12-articulatæ (exempto radiculo). Scapus articulis cæteris simul sumptis vix brevior, apicem versus incrassatus, basi incurvatus; flagellum articulo 3^o 2^o longiore, 2^o et 3^o minoribus, obconicis, 4^o—11^{um} sensim incrassatis, breviter cylindricis, clavam elongatam constituentibus. Ocelli inter se distantes, uno utrinque ad oculorum marginem anteriorem posito; tertius medius. Thorax cum scutello valde elevatus, rotundatus, rugoso-reticulatus; parapsidum suturæ obsoletæ; metathorax brevis, depressus, utrinque marginatus. Abdomen sessile, depressum, longitudinaliter striolatum, capite cum thorace longius, apice attenuato; segmentum tertium maximum, segmentum secundum basi late fortiter impressum. Tibiæ unicalcaratæ, anticæ calcaribus elongatis, falcatis. Alæ ramo stigmatico, ramo postmarginali instructæ; ramus marginalis nullus; ramus stigmaticus incrassatus; ramus postmarginalis completus, cellulam elongatam cultriformem versus alæ apicem evehens.

This genus should be interpolated between *Telenomus* and *Anteris* in Förster's table of the *Scelionides* (Hym. Stud. ii, 101). The division in that table marked k. has no genus assigned to it, and includes the present insect, which is consequently distinguished from its allies by having the *ramus stigmaticus* (Först.) or *cubitus* (of English writers) thickened at the base, so as to resemble a stigma. The characters above given are carefully selected with reference to the other genera, and are no more than is needful. Few words are seldom sufficient to elucidate a genus of this tribe.

ALERIA FLAVIBARBIS, n. sp.

A. niger, subopacus, antennarum scapo pedibusque testaceis, coxis nigris; capite, thorace, scutello, rugoso-reticulatis; abdomine supra longitudinaliter striato, segmentorum 1—4 marginibus posticis lævissimis; alis infumatis, nervis fuscis; capite et thorace partim pilis aureis brevibus squamiformibus adpressis obsitis; terebra recondita.

♀. Long. 2½; alar. exp. 3 lin.

Hab.: Corsica.

The radicle of the antennæ is testaceous, the scape somewhat darker towards the tip; the femora are also slightly infuscated. Viewed sideways, the head and

thorax are more than thrice as high as the flattened abdomen. * The checks behind the eyes are strongly bearded with pale golden, stiff, adpressed bristles, resembling scales; the hairs on other parts of the body are of the same colour, but more erect: and on the sides and raised edges of the metathorax is a covering of fine golden pubescence.

Facies of *Scelio* and *Sparasion*, though the insect is very distinct from those genera.

Whether this genus is to be referred to Förster's section h, or to hh, depends upon the more or less sessile attachment of the abdomen. I have so few of the allied genera that I am unable to compare it, except with *Sparasion* and *Scelio*, both of which have the base of the abdomen wider. I therefore prefer to associate it with section h, "Der Hinterleib nicht mit breiter Basis sitzend" (Hym. Stud. ii, 101). Section hh, *Sparasion*, &c., is described as having the abdomen "mit breiter Basis sitzend." The distinction seems a very slight one, dependent upon the value of a merely relative term. In any case, however, the present genus is new, and its precise situation in the series is a matter of less importance.

Lastingham, Pickering:
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Note on the occurrence near Manchester of Hylurgus ligniperda, Tomicus stenographus, and T. nigrinus.—Mr. Joseph Chappell, of Hulme, when recently sending me a few examples of *Tomicus stenographus*,—a gigantic species, which I believe is not generally considered to be undoubtedly British,—at the same time communicated to me some specimens of two other members of the *Xylophaga* found with it, and which I refer to *Hylurgus ligniperda*, Fab., and (with some reserve) *Tomicus nigrinus*, Gyll., Thoms. The former of these would, if proved to be British, add another genus to our list (as our other so-called *Hylurgi* are to be referred to *Blastophagus* or *Dendroctonus*, *Xylechinus* and *Cissophagus*), and the latter has been recorded as British by Dr. Sharp (Ent. Mo. Mag., vi, p. 256) on the authority of a single specimen from Inverness-shire. Mr. Chappell tells me that these insects were found at Dukinfield, under the bark of some trees of *Pinus sylvestris*, brought into that neighbourhood to make props for a coal mine. These trees were of a good size, from 10 to 15 inches diameter at the base, and varying in length from 15 to 20 feet. Particular enquiry has been made both by himself and Mr. Ward, a Lepidopterist residing at Dukinfield, as to the place from whence these trees came, and both those gentlemen were told it was Scotland, and also that the miners did not like foreign timber, as it did not last so long as the Scotch. It is not to be supposed that such an "embarras de richesses" can be unreservedly accepted on such slight evidence; but, as all the insects, from their distribution, are not unlikely to be found in this country, and two of them are already on our list, it may be as well to record these captures. The *Hylurgus* is a very fine looking beetle for the group, over $2\frac{1}{2}$ lines in length; it somewhat recalls *Hylastes cunicularius*, and